

I AM a notable and renowned German doctor; who, hearing that the emperor could not long live, and judging that his death would either put an end to, or prevent, the political, mental, and corporeal, diseases of his subjects; as rats always quit the sinking ship; members of parliament the sinking ministry; and false friends, the sinking purse of the spend-thrift; so, when the medical trade of the country has sunk, I have quitted it; and seeing every branch of the people in this country want my aid, I am come over to offer them my services.

Now listen to me, ye patriots, ye courtiers, ye judges, ye lawyers, ye attorneys, ye rectors, ye curates, ye soldiers, ye sailors, ye beaux, ye belles, ye prostitutes, ye usurers.

I have medicines for ye all; here is a purge for a patriot, that will scour out the last dregs of loyalty; this will answer very well for a short time, but, if taken for a constancy, it may not agree so well, if he does not fatten himself well on hazard grafts, or take plenty of exercise at tennis; but if this does not agree well with his constitution, he must take one of these potions of place: it is easy to swallow, and still easier to digest; but if, from any obstruction, he finds a difficulty, he had better wash it down with a little of this water of Lethe, it will expel all former opinions, which by encountering the draught, might turn it sour on his stomach.

Here is a mixture absolutely necessary for a minister of state; it is composed of various ingredients; there are here extracts of falsehood, hypocrisy, dissimulation, oratory, persuasion, and impudence. I have likewise many other little medicines that he ought always to have near him, and administer to others according to my instructions.

In the first place, here are for his superiors large potions of bows and cringes, bolusses of stamp duties, shop-taxes, window-taxes, and taxes on all the conveniences of life; but, of all things, let him have this valuable little bottle, it is an essence of excise, which is extracted from every article that necessity or luxury can procure; for other people, here are emollient mixtures composed of smiles, audiences, and promises, these are to be administered to such people as can do him one favour only, and repeated till the favour is done, then they may be left off at leisure; but to people who can do him more than one favour, he must administer one of these gilded pills, which are composed of a gum extracted from revenue collections, treasury places, and all manner of clerkships; these are always to be repeated according to the constitution of the person.

Here is an anodyne mixture for a discarded minister, composed of poverty and complaints; if he takes this plentifully, he will be pitied as a martyr to the ruling party.

Here is an eye-water for a judge:—by a constant use of this, he will at length see all causes through the medium of interest; and have his eyes opened to this clear axiom, that it is as impossible for a rich man to be guilty, as it is for a poor man to be innocent.

Here is an emulsion for a lawyer:—by which he will obtain impudence, that necessary ingredient for his profession; and that easy versatility of temper, which will make him equally happy at the execution of an innocent person, or the acquittal of a scoundrel; that enables him to use scurrility to a gentleman, and screen himself behind his profession.

Here is an essence that I made up for attorneys—but, as I could get no customers, I shall now sell it for half price. It is a strong extract of honesty and integrity; however, I have of late tried a conserve of villany and self-interest, which, being well sweetened, goes off much better.

Here is a digestive draught for a rector—which will inevitably give him a good appetite to enjoy those delicacies he procures from the sweat of our brows: And here is an electuary for a curate—which inevitably deprives him of that appetite, which he generally has so little to satisfy.

Here is a tincture, which will infuse courage into the breast of an officer; and a balsam, to polish a sailor. For beaux and belles, here are smiles, smirks, leers, and oglings; paints, patches, perfumes, and cosmetics: these will all answer well for prostitutes; and, together with a little of this liquid, by the virtues of which they obtain a power of ensnaring the hearts of princes and foreign ministers, (the most valuable secret I have in my possession,) they will become companions for the daughters of lords and gentlemen.

Here is an elixir I would recommend to all usurers, fore-stallers, &c. It is composed of extortion, fraud, cunning, and many other ingredients.

N. B. This medicine is unnecessary for Jews.—So far I have thought it necessary to mention my particular secrets, which are possessed by nobody but myself; but, for all mental and corporeal disorders that come within the power of physic, the Public will find by my practice, that I can treat them in a superior manner.

LE SIEUR VERTENZERN.